

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

\$4.6 million gift supports engineering grads, undergrads

A major gift from the Robert M. Hearin Foundation of Jackson is supporting undergraduate and graduate education at the College of Engineering.

A four-year \$4.6 million gift will enable the college to enhance instruction and move forward in national competitiveness, said President Donald W. Zacharias.

"Nearly a decade ago, I had the good fortune to meet Bob Hearin and learn from him personally about his dream for excellence in Mississippi higher education," Zacharias said. "This latest gift is a further tribute to the original vision that Mr. Hearin had for excellence. Gifts like this are what bring unique opportunities to students and greatness to a university."

Robert M. Hearin Sr., the chairman and CEO of Mississippi Valley Gas Co. in Jackson until his death in 1992, made provisions in his will to establish the Hearin Foundation. It provides support primarily to the state universities and colleges and promotes economic development in Mississippi.

The funds will allow Mississippi State to enhance existing engineering programs and introduce new ones that prepare students to be proficient in computational skills, cross-disciplinary thinking, communication, entrepreneurial capabilities, and global awareness, said Dean of Engineering A. Wayne Bennett.

"Our planned enhancements are based on national studies of engineering education," he said. "There have been profound changes in the engineering workplace in recent years. More than 70 percent of companies operating today are less than 25 years old."

Industry has been calling for changes in engineering education for nearly a decade, said Dr. John Prados, senior education associate for engineering education at the National Science Foundation.

"This grant will give Mississippi State's College of Engineering an opportunity to

implement changes to ensure the highest quality engineering education," he said. "It will allow the up-front investment in faculty members and programs for active and collaborative learning important today. The university will be among those adopting a new model of learning."

Technological advances and global competitiveness require that students be prepared to lead the companies of the future, Bennett said.

"The Hearin Foundation gift will help us prepare students for a changing world and help our students and Mississippi industries compete in the emerging global marketplace," Bennett said. "We will focus programs on technologies that are relevant to the needs of Mississippi and that have the

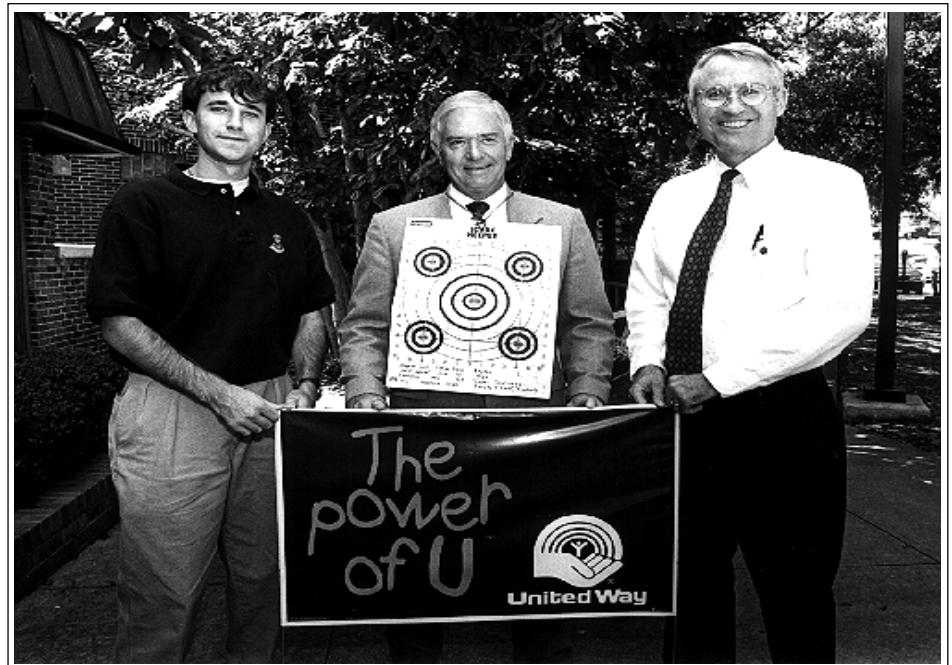
potential for significant economic impact."

Another focus of the enhancements will be outreach, he continued. "By involving our faculty and students in relevant, real-world problems, we help our state's industries and at the same time provide ideal learning conditions. Our state can become a learning laboratory for our students."

Among enhancements and new programs:

—A new program to assure that engineering students have the computational expertise they need for the workplace of the future. The program will be carried out with technical expertise from the university's National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center for Computational Field Simulation.

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University United Way chair Paul Welch (right) and student representative William R. Carter (left) target Roy "Ike" Ikenberry's record \$80,000 fund-raising effort as something to strive for in this year's campaign. (See story on page 3.)

Alumni Fellows named

Eight leaders in the areas of government, industry, private business, and education are 1997 Alumni Fellows.

The Alumni Fellows Program is sponsored by the alumni association and brings accomplished graduates back to campus to share experiences and offer advice to current students and faculty members. This year's honorees visit campus Sept. 25-26. They include:

- Dr. Mark E. Keenum of Alexandria, Va., chief of staff for Sen. Thad Cochran (R-Miss.), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He received his bachelor's degree in 1983, his master's in 1984, and his doctorate in 1988, all in agricultural economics.
- Charles C. Barlow Jr. of Madison, chief executive officer of Jackson architectural firm Barlow Eddy Jenkins, School of Architecture. Barlow received a bachelor's degree of architecture in 1980.
- Newton F. Hamlin Jr. of Austin, Texas, vice president of McLane Team Logistics, College of Arts and Sciences. Hamlin received a bachelor's degree in political science in 1964.
- John H. Baker III of Houston, Texas, real estate developer and leaseholder, College of Business and Industry. He received a bachelor's degree in business in 1963.
- Thomas L. Davis Jr. of Scooba, president of East Mississippi Community College, College of Education. He received a doctorate in educational administration in 1983.
- Bobby S. Shackouls of Houston, Texas, president and chief executive officer of Burlington Resources, Inc., College of Engineering. He received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering in 1972.
- Kenneth C. Stewart Jr. of Atlanta, Ga., executive assistant to the chairman and chief executive officer of Georgia-Pacific Corp., College of Forest Resources. He received bachelor's degrees in business and forestry in 1972.
- Dr. Kenneth R. Boschert of St. Louis, Mo., associate director of the School of Medicine at Washington University, College of Veterinary Medicine. He received a bachelor's degree in general science in 1980 and a doctor of veterinary medicine in 1984.

Presidential candidate visits set

The Board of Trustees, Institutions of Higher Learning has been interviewing Mississippi State presidential semi-finalists and is expected to announce the finalists sometime this week. The following is a tentative agenda of the finalists' interviews. If there are more than three finalists, the dates in parentheses will be added. The schedule is the same for each candidate. An up-to-date schedule of visitation dates will be kept on the university web page <http://msuinfo.ur.msstate.edu/ceo_search/prescand.htm>.

Tentative Agenda (revised 9/15/97)
Presidential Candidate Campus Visits

Sept. 28

Day 1 (Sunday)

5:15 p.m.
6 p.m.

Driving Tour of Campus and Starkville area
Dinner: Candidate and Spouse with MSU
Presidential Search Local Advisory Committee

Oct. 5

Oct. 12 (Oct. 7) (Sept. 30)

Sept. 29

Day 2 (Monday)

7:30-8:30 a.m.
8:30-9:15 a.m.
9:30-10:15
10:30-11:15 a.m.
10:30-11 a.m.
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
11:15-11:45 a.m.
Noon
1-1:30 p.m.
1:30-2 p.m.
2-2:30 p.m.
2:15-2:45 p.m.
3-3:30 p.m.
3-3:30 p.m.
3:45-4:15 p.m.
4:30-5 p.m.
4:30 p.m.
5:15-5:45 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
7 p.m.
8 p.m.

Breakfast with Candidate and Executive Council
Whittington Suite
Vice Presidents and Athletic Director
Whittington Suite Sitting Room
Department Heads
M-Club (west end)
Agriculture Units (MCES and MAFES)
M-Club (east end)
Board Receives Report from Executive Council
Lunch with Legislators
McKay Enology
Board Receives Report from Department Heads
Lunch -- Board
Faculty
Bost Extension Auditorium North
Board Receives Report from Legislators
Students
Bost Extension Auditorium South
Board Receives Report from Agriculture Units
Board Receives Report from Faculty
Candidate and Spouse with President and Mrs. Zacharias
Board Receives Report from Students
Giles Distinguished Professors; Grisham Master Teachers and Teaching Excellence Award Winners, Outstanding Faculty Awards
Bost Auditorium South
Board Receives Report from Vice Presidents/Athletic Director
Board receives Report from Distinguished Professors
Alumni/Development/Bulldog Foundation/Bulldog Club
Dinner -- Board
Dinner with Alumni/Development/Bulldog Foundation/Bulldog Club
M-Club

Oct. 6

Oct. 13 (Oct. 8) (Oct. 1)

Sept. 30

Day 3 (Tuesday)

7:30-8:30 a.m.
7:30 a.m.
8:30-9 a.m.
8:30-9 a.m.
9:30-10 a.m.
9:30-10 a.m.

Breakfast with Athletic Department Representatives
Bryan Athletic Administration Building Conference Room
Breakfast - Board
Unit Heads
Bryan Building
Board Receives Report from Alumni/Development
Deans' Council, Director of MAFES, Director of MCES
611 Allen
Board Receives Report from Unit Heads

Oct. 7

Oct. 14 (Oct. 9) (Oct. 2)

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Candidates--continued from page 2

10:10-10:30 a.m. Board Receives Report from Athletic Representative
 10:30-11 a.m. Research Operations Council
 611 Allen
 10:45-11:15 a.m. Board Receives Report from Deans' Council
 11:15-11:45 a.m. Office of the President
 11:30-noon. Board Receives Report from Research Operations Council
 Noon Lunch: Candidate and Spouse with Chamber of Commerce
 and Local City/County Representatives
 12:30 p.m. Lunch -- Board
 1:45-2:15 p.m. Staff
 Engineering Research Center, Room 20
 2-2:30 p.m. Board Receives Report from Starkville Area Representatives
 2:30-3 p.m. Recap with PSLAC
 Engineering Research Center, Room 20
 3-3:30 p.m. Board Receives Report from Staff
 3:45-4:15 p.m. IHL Search Committee
 Butler Williams Alumni House Board Room
 4:30 p.m. Press Conference
 Butler Williams Alumni House Lobby
 5-5:30 p.m. Board Receives Report from PSLAC
 7 p.m. Dinner with Board of Trustees and Commissioner Layzell

Oct. 1 Oct. 8 Oct. 15 (Oct. 10) (Oct. 3)

Day 4 (Wednesday)

8 a.m. Breakfast -- Board
 9 a.m.-Noon Board Recap and Time for Additional or Continued Reports
 to Board
 9 a.m. Board Report from Office of the President Staff
 8:30 a.m. Depart Bryan Field for Delta Research and Extension Center
 (MAFES and MCES) and Meridian Campus
 9:30 a.m. Delta Research and Extension Center (MAFES and MCES)
 (Stoneville)
 11 a.m. Depart Stoneville for MSU Meridian Campus
 11 a.m. Board Receives Report from Delta Research and Extension Center
 Noon MSU Meridian Campus
 Noon Lunch -- Board
 2 p.m. Board Receives Report from Meridian Campus
 1:30 p.m. Interview Process Concluded - Depart Meridian

**United Way campaign
 dedicated to Zachariases**

The United Way campaign is under way and the 1997-98 version is dedicated to President and Mrs. Donald Zacharias.

"The Zachariases have shown a long-term commitment to the United Way," explained this year's chair, Paul Welch.

He said the goal for faculty and staff members is \$75,000, but he's hoping to top that number. Welch's eye is on the record-breaking \$80,000-plus raised in 1995 by then-chair Roy "Ike" Ikenberry.

"We hope to set a record of our own," he added.

The university is divided into 18 divisions, with a team leader for each division. Nearly 150 volunteer faculty and staff members assist in the fund-raising effort. A separate student campaign is in progress, as well, with its own goal of \$5,500.

Division leaders and their phone numbers (all 325) are as follows:

Vicki Brown, 2436; Stephanie Burton, 1360; Johnnie Cooks, 2533; LaDonne Delgado, 7660; Roger Easley, 1485; Elizabeth Hawkins, 8507; Stephanie Heflin, 2061; Leslie Marsh, 0785; Michael Mitchell, 2743; Ophelia Mitchell, 3205; Wallace Murphree, 8078; Chris Nettles, 8121; Lea Pitre, 0817; Betty Purvis, 3717; Rob Rice, 2773; Rachel Singleton, 1884; Gregory Watson, 2202; Paula Wilson, 2110.

Pledge cards should be turned in by the Oct. 1 deadline. For more information, contact Welch at 325-3228.

Discounted ballet tickets

Discounted tickets to the Moscow State Ballet's Jackson performance are available through the Department of Human Resources Management.

The ballet company will perform "The Nutcracker" Nov. 16 at 3 and 6 p.m. at Thalia Mara Hall.

Retail, the tickets sell for \$17.50 to \$65. With the discount, Mississippi State employees, guests and family members will pay \$14.50 to \$38.

To order discounted tickets, call Alice Osaji at 325-2894, HRM, to obtain the Mississippi State discount code. Then, call Ticketmaster at 800-488-5252 and order the tickets.

Persons wishing to sit together in groups of 20 or more should contact Bill Allen at 800-320-1733.



Physical Plant gets in on the act in preparation for the Oct. 9 and 10 Campus Sweep. Helping to beautify the campus by stripping handrails for painting are (clockwise from bottom left) Dave Tate, Troy Jones, Ricky Fondren, and Derek Hunt.



Calendar of Events

Send your calendar items to

Calendar, 102 George Hall; Campus Mail Stop 9512; FAX 325-7455; e-mail jonesk@ur.msstate.edu. Please notify Calendar of Events at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance. For updates, check: http://msuinfo.ur.msstate.edu/hot_news/events.htm

September

22

"Understanding and Using Financial Statements," Continuing Education, Memorial Hall, 1-5 p.m. 325-8994.

23

Korean Music and Dance Ensemble, McComas Hall theater, 7:30 p.m. 325-3070.

24

"PowerPoint 7.0: A Presentation Graphics Program for Windows," (second session is Nov. 21) Continuing Education, 107 Dorman Hall, 12:30-4:30 p.m. 325-8994.

Book signing for Ashland Brown, "Servant of the Dead," MSU Bookstore, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Phone orders welcome. 325-2247, ask for Priscilla.

Benefits Expo '97, Colvard Union ballroom, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 325-3310.

25

"Management Skills for New Supervisors," Continuing Education, Memorial Hall, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 325-8994.

26

MSU vs. Alabama, women's soccer, (field behind McArthur Hall), 4 p.m.

"Computer Resources: How to Use Them," Renu Thamma, information systems, 3-5 p.m., International Student Modular Orientation, Colvard Union small auditorium. 325-8929.

"Quattro Pro 7 for Windows: An Introduction," Continuing Education, 107 Dorman, 1-5 p.m. 325-8994.

27

Scholars' Recognition Day, Colvard Union, 8 a.m. 325-3076.

MSU vs. South Carolina, football, Scott Field, 6 p.m.

28

MSU vs. Auburn, women's soccer, (field behind McArthur Hall), 1 p.m.

30

"Introduction to Windows 95," Continuing Education, 107 Dorman Hall, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 325-8994.

October

1

"Career Services," Dr. Bob Wolverton, 3-5 p.m., International Student Modular Orientation, Colvard Union small auditorium. 325-8929.

2

John Barry, author of "Rising Tide: Great Mississippi Flood of 1927," to lecture at Mitchell Memorial Library auditorium, 6 p.m., sponsored by Friends of the MSU Libraries. Book signing immediately afterwards, sponsored by MSU Bookstore. 325-2247.

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—Design courses, particularly at the senior level, will be restructured to emphasize cross-disciplinary projects and computational-based design.

—Cooperation with the English and communication departments to integrate communication skills into all engineering courses.

—Development of partnerships with companies known for entrepreneurial approaches, including establishment of an executive-in-residence program and a visiting lecture program in cooperation with the College of Business and Industry.

—Establishment of a Study Abroad program that includes an expanded international cooperative education program and the development of international internships.

—Expansion of technology transfer efforts, focusing on the development of certification programs in new and emerging technologies.

"To my knowledge, these projects supported by the Hearin Foundation provide the first comprehensive plan for addressing national issues on a broad scale," Bennett concluded. "I am excited about the opportunities the Hearin grant will bring to our students and am committed to making a difference in our state."

2 and 3

Alabama-Mississippi Social Work Education Conference, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work. 325-7891.

3

MSU vs. Georgia, women's volleyball, Newell-Grissom Building, 7 p.m.

MSU vs. Northwestern State, women's soccer (field behind McArthur Hall), 3 p.m.

Korean dance troupe set

Native Korean instruments and costumes will be featured in a free dance performance Sept. 23.

The National Center for Korean Traditional Performing Arts program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the McComas Hall theater. The concert is presented by the Music Education Department, in collaboration with the University Honors Program and the Center for International Security and Strategic Studies.

Following the concert, the Korean-American School of Starkville will be host for a public reception in the theater lobby.

Earlier Tuesday, the musicians and dancers will perform at a 12:30 p.m. University Honors Forum in the School of Architecture's Bettersworth Auditorium.

On Wednesday [the 24th], the group performs again in the same location for the Music Education Department's "Wednesdays at 2," a 2 p.m. weekly program for faculty and music education students.

For more information on the performances, contact the department at 325-3070.

International development brown-bag lunch topic

The Office of International Programs is hosting a brown-bag luncheon Sept. 23 to improve campus-wide communication in the international arena.

Anyone interested in international development activities is invited to attend the noon organizational meeting in 203 McCool Hall.

Future meetings are expected to deal with opportunities and activities in international education, research and service available across campus.

For more information, contact Jan Bryant at 325-8475; Joy Boscareno, 0549; Stephen Cottrell, 8929; or Ed Duett, 7472.